Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 AID-05 /039 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, GB

SUBJ: CREATION OF NEW AVIATION MINISTRY

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PRESIDENT BONGO SIGNED DECREE
JANUARY 8 ESTABLISHING NEW MINISTRY OF CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL
AVIATION ATTACHED DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENCY. COMMUNIQUE
NOTED THAT CREATION OF NEW MINISTRY COINCIDES WITH EXPANSION
OF AIR GABON INTO INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, AND ADDED
THAT MINISTRY WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSIGNT OF AIR
GABON AND FOR GABONESE AIRPORT INSTALLATIONS. COMMUNIQUE
SPECIFICALLY OBSERVED THAT NEW MINISTRY WILL NOT BE
ATTACHED TO EXISTING MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND CIVIL AVIATION,
BUT DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER LATTER WOULD CHANGE ITS
DENOMINATION. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL
USE.

2. COMMENT: AT FIRST BLUSH, CREATION OF NEW MINISTRY SEEMINGLY INSTITUTIONALIZES PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION TO KEEP AIR GABON UNDER HIS OWN THUMB AND OUT FROM UNDER CONTROL OF MINTRANSPORT RAWIRI. TO SOME EXTENT, IT PRESUMABLY ALSO REFLECTS TRIUMPH FOR PRESIDENCY DIRECTEUR DE CABINET MAYILA, WHO HAS BEEN JOCKEYING WITH HIS GOOD FRIEND RAWIRI FOR DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY ON AIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GABON EXPANSION SINCE IDEA FIRST PUT FORWARD BY BONGO. FURTHER TEST OF THIS HYPOTHESIS WILL COME WHEN NEW MINISTER IS NAMED, WITH GOOD CHANCE THAT POST WILL BE TACKED ON TO MAYILA'S ALREADY LONG LIST OF RESPONSIBILITIES.STEIGMAN

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
INN					

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

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Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES

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Subject: CREATION OF NEW AVIATION MINISTRY

TAGS: EAIR, PGOV, GB, AIR GABON, (BONGO, EL HADJ OMAR)

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